



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/086,043 Confirmation No. 8887
 Applicant : S. Mark Haugland
 Filed : February 28, 2002
 TC/A.U. : 2125
 Examiner : Ortiz Rodriguez, Carlos R.
 Docket No. : PAT009US
 Customer No. : 32656

Mail Stop RCE
 Commissioner for Patents
 P. O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMANING
 REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Dear Sir:

In response to the first office action in the instant application, mailed by the PTO on September 16, 2005 (the "Office Action"), Applicant has elected to file a Request for Continued Examination, which RCE this Preliminary Amendment accompanies. The RCE is filed on or before December 16, 2005, and is therefore timely filed. In this Preliminary Amendment to the RCE:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.